

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL**

P.O. Box 944246
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460
Website: www.fire.ca.gov
(916) 445-8200



**CALIFORNIA CODE ADOPTION
Meeting Notes
Special Occupancies Workgroup
September 28, 2005, 8:00 a.m.
LA Department of Building and Safety**

<p><u>ATTENDEES:</u></p> <p>Facilitators:</p> <p>Committee or Group Members Present: Sia Poursabahia, LADBS Randy Metz, OCFA Daniel Bak, MD Fire Safety Nancy Johnson, SMFD Vahid Toossi, OCFA Frank Comfort, LAFD Sean Daugherty, LBFD Ray Simpson, SJFD Steve Ikkanda, LADBS Eddie Vasquez, DGS State Arch.</p> <p>CDF/SFM Staff Present: None</p>	<p><u>STAKEHOLDERS IN AUDIENCE:</u> None</p>
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DOCUMENT HANDOUTS:

1. Chapter 4 of 2001 CBC
2. Chapter 4 of 2003 IBC
3. Comparison Charts between CBC and IBC

AGENDA:

1. Overall view of committee's assignment
2. Determine the areas where the committee considers a need to amend the IBC.
3. Schedule next meeting time and date.

DISCUSSION/COMMENTS:

- General meeting guidelines/observations

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- The first meeting was held in person, however, it was discussed by the group that future meetings may be held via teleconferencing depending on how much work was accomplished during this first meeting.
- The first meeting was started at 0800 hours and ended at 1600 hours, with an hour lunch break.

Sia Poursabahian started the meeting with introductions around the room. He then gave a brief statement on the goals set for the group regarding the task and schedule for completion. He reviewed the overall process required to amend the IBC.

Prior to this first meeting, Sia had gone over both the CBC and IBC and made handy comparison charts for us to be able to quickly review and on which to base our decisions on.

Randy Metz then gave a brief statement of “what” we should be looking at in the new code and “how” we should be looking to amend the IBC. He reminded the group that we are to make the changes as simple as possible, and that any changes must be accompanied by justifications for the changes.

The Working Group discussed the importance of having some items in the code that are “region-specific”. Any code amendments shall be prioritized by what’s important to change and there should be a “wish list” of items to be considered at a later date.

Discussion went on regarding how much this group would be allowed to change based on what the SFM was looking at in adopting the new code. The question came up: Should we not add some of the items into the new code from our “wish list” now that we think shouldn’t wait for another code cycle?

Sia suggested to the group that we start our process by comparing both the CBC and the IBC and then concentrating on the amending sections based on the 9-point criteria.

Sia shared his observations that as we go through the High-rise Section in the IBC, we will notice that it does not distinguish between “existing” and “new” buildings and that the IBC does not specify “individual occupancy” types as the CBC does.

Additionally, Sia suggested that we define both “existing” and “new” buildings in the new code for high-rise buildings.

Ray Simpson mentioned that the group might have to justify or note why some of the old codes were not being brought over from the CBC to the IBC. He also mentioned that we might have to amend the IFC concurrently, but it was concluded by the group that changes made in the IBC would automatically be brought over to the IFC.

Steve Ikkanda made recommendations on how to go about the changes, by suggesting that we look at the state amendments only.

The Working Group methodically went through the code comparison charts made by Sia and discussed the changes found between the CBC and the IBC in Chapter 4, for sections: 402 –Atria, 403- High Rise Buildings, 404-Covered Mall Buildings, 410-Stages and Platforms and Smoke Control. In doing so, we made sure all code provisions in both codes were examined thoroughly.

Our recommendations for changes are explained below:

Covered Mall Buildings: CBC 404 to IBC 402:

All code sections compared and no further action was necessary

Atriums: CBC 402 to IBC 404:

The Working Group examined Atriums and found one item that needed action:

- CBC 402.5.2-Group I Occupancy means of egress
 - This section was not included in IBC 404.

Stages and Platforms: CBC 405 to IBC 410:

The working Group examined Stages and Platforms and made one recommendation there should be a section in the IBC that addresses separations for stages less than 50 'in height. This is marked as an action item.

High Rise Buildings: CBC 403 – IBC 403:

The Working Group examined high rise buildings and recommended the following amendments:

- 403.1 – Applicability
 - Discussion about adding the same language regarding “existing” and “new” buildings with respect to the definition of height of a high rise building.
- 403.1.2. – Existing Buildings
 - 403.1.2.1 – The group has recommended deleting the word “occupancy” because the IBC does not differentiate between occupancy types.
 - A note will be sent to Laura Blaul regarding “l”’s-hospitals; they are **not** omitted from IBC high rise requirements. This is an action item.
- 403.2, exception 2 –Automatic sprinkler systems
 - The group found that this exception for telecommunication equipment buildings is less restrictive and should be struck out of the code.
- 403.3.1 – Type of construction, exceptions 1-3
 - The group examined these exceptions and found that exceptions 1 and 3 should be struck because these additions in the IBC are one half as restrictive as the CBC, currently.
- 403.5 – Automatic Fire Detection
 - The group suggested that CBC section 403.3 be added back in the IBC under section 907.2.18.1.
- 403.3 (CBC) –Smoke Detection
 - Smoke detection was not addressed in IBC section 403.
 - The group has recommended that this code section from CBC be inserted back into the section of the IBC.
- 403.9-Elevators
 - Requirements found in CBC, section 403.7, # 1 thru #3 were not found in the IBC section 403.9.

- The group recommended that items #1 thru #3 be added in verbatim from CBC 403.7 and that there be a change in exception #2 to reflect the new section number from 402 to 404.
- 403.10-Special requirements for standby power systems
 - The group found that the requirement for an on-premises fuel supply from CBC 403.8.1 is missing from IBC.
 - The group has recommended that this statement be added back into the IBC.
- 403.12-Stairway door operation
 - The requirement from CBC 403.9, (1) SFM note that “Upon failure of electrical power, the locking mechanisms shall be retracted to the unlocked position”, is missing this section.
 - The group has recommended that it be added into IBC, section 403.12.
- 403.14-Seismic considerations
 - The specific requirement under chapter 16 of IBC for the anchorage of life-safety systems and suspension systems has been left out.
 - The group recommends adding the paragraph from CBC 403.10 to 403.14 so that the life-safety equipment is specifically mentioned.

ACTION ITEMS (FOLLOW UP) AND RESPONSIBLES:

1. For CBC 402 to IBC402- A note was made to pass this information to Laura Blaul to see if this code section is picked up under the “I”s in another part of the IBC.
2. For IBC 403.1.2- A note will be sent to Laura Blaul regarding “I”s-hospitals; they are **not** omitted from IBC high rise requirements.
3. IBC 403.3.1 – The group will do further work on the exceptions.
4. IBC 403.5- The group will do further on this section.

NEXT MEETING:

To be Determined.